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**After Jio-bp, Nayara Energy sells petrol, diesel at ₹1 less than PSUs**

As OMCs continue to hold prices despite a drop in international rates, private fuel retailers have started passing on the benefit to consumers. "To stimulate domestic consumption and cater to local customers better, we have introduced a ₹1 discount in our retail outlets until June-end 2023," said a spokesperson for Nayara Energy, which owns 7% of India's 86,925 petrol pumps. Earlier, Jio-bp began selling superior grade diesel at ₹1 cheaper than regular grade diesel

Bengaluru experienced heavy rainfall Tuesday evening. Many roads were flooded and traffic disrupted | VINOD KUMAR T

# Just 4cm rain brings city to its knees

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

RESIDENTS living in localities along Outer Ring Road, Mysuru Road, Bellandur and surrounding areas feared a repeat of the September 2022 deluge, with the city experiencing heavy rain on Tuesday. The city recorded 4cm of rain between 6 pm and 8.30 pm.

Distress calls made to Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's control rooms were not answered on Tuesday night.

Officials from the IMD have forecast a thunderstorm alert for the next two days for most parts of South Interior Karnataka. CONTINUED ON: P2

# Fund misuse in Kalyan K'taka board, probe on

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
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THE state government has ordered a probe into the alleged mismanagement of grants released to Kalyan Karnataka Region Development Board (KKRDB) and Kalyan Karnataka Human Resources, Agriculture and Cultural Society during the BJP rule.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah ordered the probe following allegations of irregularities and misappropriation of funds released to KKRDB during 2022-23 under the ₹3,000-crore grant.

RDPR Minister Priyank Kharge had written to the CM alleging misappropriation of funds released to KKRDB and sought an inquiry.

Siddaramaiah directed the Chief Secretary to order a departmental inquiry into the alleged mismanagement of funds, allegations of misuse of ₹300 crore released to Kalyan Karnataka Human Resources, Agriculture and Cultural Society, and also into the alleged violation of Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurements Act in spending ₹4 crore as against ₹3.5 crore approved for Kalyan Karnataka Liberation Day celebrations. P5

EXPRESS READ

### DA for state govt staff hiked from 31% to 35%

Bengaluru: The state government on Tuesday increased the DA for its staff and pensioners from 31% to 35%, wef January 1, 2023. The Finance Department order stated it is applicable to pensioners/family pensioners and pensioners/family pensioners of aided educational institutions | P5

### Bus rides free for all women, says Ramalinga

Bengaluru: Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy on Tuesday said all women can travel for free on buses. A final decision will be taken during the cabinet meeting on June 1. Reddy held a high-level meeting with top officials of all the 4 transport corporations | P4

# Medal point to put police on the mat

## Wrestlers put off plan to drop medals in the Ganga

NARENDRA SETHI AND UJWAL JALALI
@ Haridwar/New Delhi

INDIA'S top wrestlers on Tuesday raised the pitch of their ongoing protest up a notch — against the delay in arresting sidelined Wrestling Federation of India chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh — by threatening to let their hard-earned medals wash away in the Ganga but put it off by five days to give the police time to act.

The five-day deadline for Singh's arrest came after the intervention of farmer leader Naresh Tikait.

Rough police action to evict them from the Jantar Mantar protest site on Sunday also weighed on their minds as they reached Haridwar with their medals on Tuesday evening. The United World Wrestling on Tuesday condemned the treatment meted out to the protesting wrestlers and their detention following a scuffle with the police on Sunday.

Earlier in the day, the grapplers had announced their intention to sit on an indefinite hunger strike at India Gate in Delhi after returning from Haridwar. However, sources in the Delhi Police told this newspaper they would not allow any demonstration at India Gate as it is a national monument.

At Har Ki Pauri in Haridwar, top wrestlers like Vinesh Phogat, Bajrang Punia, Sangeeta Phogat and Sakshi Malik said, "When the government is not ready to take action against the Singh, who is also a BJP MP, what is the use of these medals we won for the country?"

Protesting wrestlers at Har ki Pauri in Haridwar | PTI

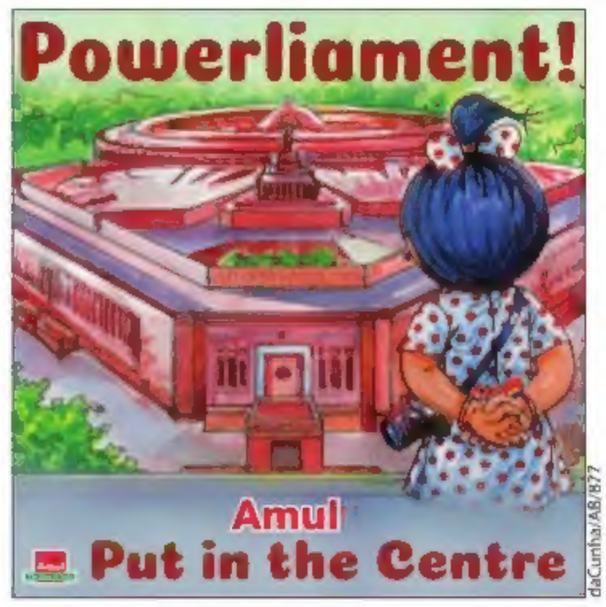
### Khaps back grapplers

Haryana's khaps and farmer outfits were among the groups that appealed to the protesting wrestlers not to immerse their medals in the Ganga

After taking a seat by the riverbank, clutching their medals, the grapplers broke down in tears as their numerous supporters formed a protective circle. Singh is facing grave charges of sexual harassment of grapplers, including that of a minor. Though he has also been booked under the POCSO Act, he is yet to be arrested.

At Har Ki Pauri, Nitin Gautam, president of the Shri Ganga Sabha, advised them against dropping their medals in the Ganga. "Har ki Pauri is a sacred pilgrimage site. Wrestlers can take holy baths, do charity, but medals will not be allowed to be dropped there. Har Ki Pauri will not be allowed to become an arena of politics."

The Samyukta Kisan Morcha has given a call for a nationwide agitation on June 1 to secure the democratic right of protest for the wrestlers.




# B Dayananda new top cop of Bengaluru

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

SENIOR IPS officer **B Dayananda** has been appointed as new Bengaluru City Police Commissioner. Dayananda, a 1994-batch IPS officer, who was serving as Additional Director-General of Police (ADGP), Intelligence, was transferred on Tuesday. Along with him, 3 other IPS officers, including Special Commissioner (Traffic) MA Saleem, have been promoted and transferred.

Saleem has been promoted as Director-General of Police and transferred to the Criminal Investigation Department (CID), Special Units and Economic Offences, Bengaluru. Bengaluru City Police Commissioner CH Pratap Reddy has been transferred and posted as DGP, Internal Security Division. KV Sharath Chandra, who is serving as ADGP, CID, has been posted as ADGP, Intelligence, in place of Dayananda. CONTINUED ON: P3

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